

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 06076 240031Z

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DLOS-05 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12

NEA-10 RSC-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

AID-05 CEQ-01 COA-01 COME-00 EB-07 EPA-04 NSF-02

OES-05 FEA-01 ACDA-10 AEC-07 AGR-10 DOTE-00 CIEP-02

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TAGS: PLOS, UN

SUBJ: LAW OF SEA CONFERENCE RESOLUTION

1. UNGA ADOPTED LOS CONF. RES (DOC A/L 747 AND ADD. 1 & 2) BY VOTE OF 133-0-0 ON 17 DEC. 74. STATEMENTS IN EXPLANATION OF VOTE WERE MADE BY US (AMB. STEVENSON), UK, USSR, FRANCE AND PRC.

2. SYG'S FINANCIAL ESTIMATES WERE FOR \$2,650,000 FOR GENEVA SESSION WHICH INCLUDED 2,146,000 FOR 255 SERVICING STAFF IN 5 LANGUAGES, \$491,000 FOR ARABIC LANGUAGE SERVICES, AND \$12,400 FOR INFORMATION OFFICERS. ACABQ RECOMMENDED AGAINST BUDGET FINANCING OF ARABIC AND REDUCTION TO 2 MILLION. ADVISORY COMITE NOTED ARABIC USERS MIGHT VOLUNTARILY CONTRIBUTE TO OFFSET COST OF LANGUAGE SERVICES AS IN THE CASE OF UNGA. EGYPT, MOROCCO, ALGERIA AND OTHERS OBJECTED TO THE ACABQ'S "DISCRIMINATION" AND COMITE V, BY VOTE OF 69(US)-0-10 (SOVS), DECIDED TO INFORM UNGA THAT TOTAL OF \$2,491,000 APPROPRIATION WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR GENEVA SESSION, I.E., ARABIC IS FINANCED FROM BUDGET).

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 USUN N 06076 240031Z

3. IN COMITE V DEBATE CANADA REP ASKED REP OF SYG WHAT ARRANGEMENTS MIGHT BE MADE IF CONFERENCE, AT GENEVA SESSION, DECIDED TO RECONVENE ITSELF FOR FURTHER WORK IN 1975. ARGENTINA, AUSTRIA AND INDIA ALSO INQUIRED ABOUT AVAILABILITY OF INTERPRETATION SERVICES FOR REGIONAL GROUP MEETINGS BETWEEN SESSIONS. THE REPLY TO CANADA WAS THAT SECRETARIAT WOULD DO ALL IT COULD TO ACCOMMODATE WISHES OF CONFERENCE AND ON THE BASIS OF THE QUESTION THE SECRETARIAT WOULD MAKE TENTATIVE PLANS TO PREPARE FOR THE EVENTUALITY. REGIONAL GROUP MEETINGS COULD BE SERVICED IN NEW YORK OR GENEVA FROM AVAILABLE EXISTING STAFF, AND EXTRA STAFF MIGHT BE HIRED FROM CONF. BUDGET IF NECESSARY.

4. THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS ARE FROM COMITE V'S REPORT OF THE FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS TO THE UNGA:

QTE:(A) SEVERAL REPRESENTATIVES STATED THAT THEY ATTACHED GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE CONFERENCE. THEY SOUGHT REASSURANCE THAT ADEQUATE PROVISION IS MADE FOR MEETINGS OF REGIONAL, GEOGRAPHICAL, OR OTHER GROUPS, BEFORE, DURING, AND BETWEEN SESSIONS OF THE CONFERENCE.

(B) THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND THE DIRECTOR OF THE BUDGET STATED THAT MUCH WOULD DEPEND UPON WHERE SUCH MEETINGS WOULD BE HELD, AND THE PRACTICAL DIFFICULTY OF OBTAINING AN ADEQUATE STAFF. REFERENCE HAD BEEN MADE IN THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S STATEMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS TO PROVISION FOR MEETINGS OF SUCH GROUPS DURING THE APPROVED PERIODS OF THE SESSIONS OF THE CONFERENCE, BUT OTHER MEETINGS EITHER BEFORE THE THIRD SESSION OR BETWEEN SESSIONS COULD BE (A) SERVICED FROM PERMANENT RESOURCES IF AVAILABLE, OR

(B) FINANCED, IF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE AGREED, BY RECOURSE TO THE RESOLUTION ON UNFORESEEN AND EXTRAORDINARY EXPENSES, WITH THE PRIOR CONCURRENCE OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

(C) ON REPRESENTATIVE STATED THAT IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE FOR THE FIFTH COMMITTEE TO PLACE ON RECORD, IN THE LIGHT OF THE IMPORTANCE ATTACHED TO THE CONFERENCE, ITS SUPPORT FOR THE PRINCIPLE OF FACILITATING HOLDING MEETINGS OF GROUPS, WHICH MAY REQUIRE INTERPRETATION AND OTHER SERVICES,
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 USUN N 06076 240031Z

BOTH BEFORE AND BETWEEN SESSIONS OF THE CONFERENCE. UNQTE.

5. SOV REP SOUGHT REDUCTION TO 1.7 MILLION BUT, LACKING SUPPORT, DID NOT PRESS ISSUE TO VOTE.

6. IN EXPLANATION BEFORE THE VOTE IN PLENARY AMB. STEVENSON NOTED LAST YEARS RES WAS CLEAR MANDATE TO COMPLETE WORK IN 1975 AND EXPRESSED BELIEF THAT CURRENT RES

DOES NOT PRECLUDE ADDITIONAL INTERSESSIONAL WORK IN 1975. HE SAID "IT WOULD BE OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT THE SECRETARIAT COULD PROCEED TO DO THE BEST IT COULD TO ENSURE THAT IF THE CONFERENCE DETERMINED SUCH WORK WAS NECESSARY, APPROPRIATE ARRANGEMENTS WOULD BE FORTHCOMING." HE ADDED:

QTE: AS THE MANY EXPERIENCED NEGOTIATORS IN THIS ROOM WELL KNOW, THERE COMES A TIME IN ANY NEGOTIATION WHEN ITS COURSE MOVES RAPIDLY FORWARD TOWARD PERCEIVED SOLUTIONS OR A BREAKDOWN OCCURS. IT SEEMS TO ME EVIDENT THAT THE MOMENT MUST COME AT GENEVA. IF THE WILL IS THERE TO MAKE THE DECISIONS AND THE ACCOMMODATIONS THAT ARE NECESSARY, WE SHALL HAVE THE MOMENTUM TO MOVE TO A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION.

QTE: THOUGH MY GOVERNMENT IS SECOND TO NONE IN PRESSING FOR A TIMELY SOLUTION BY THE LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE AND IN SEEKING A WORK PROGRAMME TO THAT END, OUR SUPPORT FOR A TIMELY CONFERENCE SHOULD NOT BE MISREAD AS A WILLINGNESS TO SACRIFICE ESSENTIAL NATIONAL INTERESTS. MY NATION WILL GO TO GENEVA TO NEGOTIATE. GENEVA CAN SUCCEED, HOWEVER, ONLY IF ALL NATIONS APPROACH OUR WORK IN THAT SPIRIT; AND IT CAN SUCCEED ONLY IF ALL NATIONS IDENTIFY THEIR ESSENTIAL NATIONAL INTERESTS AND REALIZE, IN TURN, THAT OTHERS HAVE ESSENTIAL INTERESTS THAT MUST BE ACCOMMODATED. UNQTE.

7. UK (LOGAN) SAID MOMENTUM OF CONF. MUST NOT BE LOST BECAUSE OF AN INFLEXIBLE SCHEDULE AND HE EXPRESSED HOPE GOVERNMENTS WOULD MAKE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS TO CONTINUE NEGOTIATIONS IN 1975 IF CONF. DECIDES TO RECONVENE LATER IN YEAR.

8. USSR (KOLESNIK) EMPHASIED NEED FOR CONSENSUS AT CONF. AND MOVES TOWARD DETENTE SHOULD BE POSITIVE INFLUENCE ON CONF. TO AVOID MAKING OCEANS AN AREA FOR COMPETITION. REMAINDER OF UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 USUN N 06076 240031Z

STATEMENT REFERRED TO UNIVERSAL PARTICIPATION AND EXCESSIVE FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS.

9. CHINA (AN) SAID SUPERPOWERS WERE ATTEMPTING TO EMASCULATE THE 200 MILE EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE BY RESTRICTIONS AND CONDITIONS. SOVS WERE ACCUSED OF ABUSING RIGHTS OF SMALL STATES BY INSISTING ON FISHING RIGHTS AND FREEDOM OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH IN THE ZONE. HE SAID, "IN CONCERT WITH THE OTHER SUPERPOWER, IT (SOVS) HAS BEEN ADVERTISING A PACKAGE AGREEMENT IN AN ATTEMPT TO EXCHANGE THIS EMPTY NON-EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE FOR THE FREE PASSAGE THRU STRAITS." THIS, AND SAID, WOULD GUARANTEE THEIR FREEDOM TO PLUNDER LDCS AND PRACTICE HEGEMONISM.

10. FRANCE (SCALABRE) NOTED WORK MAY NOT BE COMPLETED IN GENEVA. "HOWEVER, MY DELEGATION STILL HAS RESERVATIONS ABOUT

THE ADVISABILITY OF CONTINUING THE WORK, ONE WAY OR ANOTHER,
AFTER 10 MAY 1975. WHAT COULD NOT BE ATTAINED IN 50 DAYS OF
NEGOTIATION HAS VERY LITTLE CHANCE OF BEING SUCCESSFUL AFTER
THAT, UNLESS WE FIRST OF ALL HAVE A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF TIME
FOR REFLECTION." SCALABRE EXPRESSED HOPE FOR CONCLUDING WORK
AND SAID FRANCE WOULD CREATE NO OBSTACLES BUT DECISION ON
WHETHER TO CONTINUE IN 1975 SHOULD WAIT UNTIL AFTER
NEXT SESSION.
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